



Kid's

GARDENING GUIDE

WHEN YOU NEED ROOM

 **Cook**
PORTABLE WAREHOUSES®

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FIX-IT-ALL
WARRANTY**

TEACH YOUR KIDS TO GROW (A GARDEN)

Do your children know where their food really comes from? Do they realize the work required and elements needed for food to grow and flourish? Show them!

As they plant and see the growth that happens, they themselves will grow in their understanding of science and nature. But more than that, they'll grow in character. They're learning to be responsible, have a strong work ethic and are seeing the tenacity needed to finish a project.





PASS DOWN YOUR GREEN THUMB

We understand if your garden is your place of solace and quiet, but don't forget to share your passion with your kids! Create happy memories with them now so they'll continue to love it into adulthood.

1. Invite them to help you.

Your kids are always asking you to play with them or watch them. Return this favor by asking for their help! Talk to them about how you have a big project that takes a lot of work, but it'll be fun if you do it together. They'll feel important being asked to help with a big adult project. (granted this excitement might wear off after they pull that first weed, but it'll get them started at least).

Also, involve them in the entire process from planning, planting, maintaining and harvesting. Here's a [great little worksheet](#) to allow them to help you plan out what you're going to grow in your garden.

2. Show them your excitement.

When you're excited, your kids will follow suit (or at least most of the time). Either way they'll grow up knowing this is something you love doing and though they may not love it like you, they'll grow to appreciate your hard work and dedication (they might be adults when this happens, but eventually it will click).

3. Teach them about the end result of their hard work.

- If you've planted tomatoes and some spices, they can [make pizzas](#) and spaghetti sauce.
- If you have a strawberry or blackberry bush, talk to them about the jellies you can make or yummy cobblers you'll be digging into soon.
- If they have a favorite vegetable or fruit, try to incorporate this into the garden so they'll be a little more excited.
- If you're growing potatoes, you can promise you'll make some homemade french fries.

4. Start from the seed.

For most of your garden you can buy the plants, but at least for 1 or 2, try starting with the seed. Your children will be amazed at seeing how these little seeds become plants that later becomes something they can see flower or possibly even eat.

[Here are some great suggestions](#) for plants to start from a seed. BHG recommends planting beans and potatoes (what kid wouldn't love digging through the dirt to find those yummy taters?!) Or you may want to go with plants that have larger seeds for those little hands to easily handle. Kidsgardening.org suggests peas, squash and sunflowers.

A young boy with short brown hair, wearing a green t-shirt, is shown in profile on the left side of the image, looking towards the right. On the right side, a hand is visible touching a small green plant in a brown plastic pot. The background is a blurred garden scene with various green plants and more pots.

CREATE FUN TIMES IN THE GARDEN

Create Vegetable Markers

There are a ton of different ways you can do this. Paint rocks that you already have. Or, purchase a package of wooden spoons and have the kids paint a picture of the different plants you're growing on them.

Paint Clay Pots for Flowers or for Your Vegetable Container Garden

You can either give them one color to cover the pots, or let them use their imagination and see what they come up with.

Play Music While You're Working

Make weeding into a garden dancing session! Create a playlist with some of your kids' favorite songs and play it as you're working. They'll love singing along with you as they work beside you.

KID'S GARDENING CHORE CHART:

Depending on their age they may need a little more help with some tasks, but remember to build them up as you show them the correct way to maintain a garden. Here are some of the tasks they might be able to help you with.

Chore Chart:

Help Choose Flowers/Plants

Plant seeds and plants

Water Plants

Pull Weeds

Sweep Patio and Porch (of dirt, bugs and pulled weeds)

Pick ripe vegetables



[Here's more information on assigning backyard chores for your kids.](http://www.CookPortableWarehouses.com)

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GARDEN ADDITION

Gardening takes a lot of space and tools. If you're a novice gardener, realize this will take time, resources and effort. So, while you acquire the tools and supplies needed, look into adding a shed to your landscape as well. This will help you keep all of your supplies organized and it can also be a great place to start your seeds. As you wait for the last frost, you can already be starting your garden indoors so they're ready when the season begins.

Cook Portable Warehouses are a long lasting shed option. Here are our two most popular sheds for gardeners. But, you can take a tour of all of our shed styles [here](#).



GARDEN SHED



LOFTED BARN